

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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About September 1953 work began on construction of a new bridge over the Shkumbi River. The bridge is being constructed to permit the Durres-Elbasan railroad line to be extended to the Vlone via Serki (or Serikou) (sic).¹ At the beginning of October 1953, about 500 young men and women were added to the labor force. Kyriakos Haritos² from Nivan (Gjinokaster) a deputy of the Albanian Assembly and Chairman of the Democratic Front addressed the young men and women at a gathering held at Tirana before their departure. The work on the bridge is under the supervision of General Sadik Bektashi.

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1. Comment: This is probably Cerrik, a few miles southeast of Elbasan, where an oil refinery is being constructed.

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2. Comment: Probably Harito Kirjako who is a member of the Presidium of the People's Assembly.

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